

*(As we enter the sanctuary, let us quietly prepare our hearts and minds for worship. Please observe social distancing, keep your masks on while you are in the building, and please silence your cell phones for the duration of the service.)*

## GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

### SOUNDING OF THE HOUR

### WELCOME

### GREETING

Leader: Keep pressing on toward the goal:  
People: **The heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.**

PRELUDE "The Old Rugged Cross" arr.: Joel Raney

\*CALL TO WORSHIP based on Psalm 126

Leader: When God restored the fortunes of Zion  
and brought the exiles home,  
we thought we were dreaming!  
People: **Our mouths were filled with laughter then,  
our tongues with songs of joy!**

Leader: From the nations we heard,  
"The Lord has done great things for them."

People: **Yes! God has done great things for us,  
and so we rejoice!**

Leader: Now Lord, once again set free captive hearts.  
Make them like flowing streams in the driest desert.  
May those who sow now in tears reap with shouts of joy.

People: **Let those who go out weeping with their seed,  
carry home the harvest with shouts of joy!**

### \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

\*HYMN OF PRAISE # 629 "Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee"

### CALL TO CONFESSION

*(Few moments of silent prayer)*

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy God, why are you so extravagant? We work hard, use our intelligence, keep our ledgers balanced, care for our families, and honor our legacies. Is this not enough to earn our place among the favored? Yet, you throw open windows and doors, revealing a vision we do not possess, where accomplishments don't count, where tears reap joy, where peace is found in suffering, where confidence is gained by giving away what was ours to treasure. Show us again what matters; open our eyes and hearts to the abundance of your grace. Forgive our misplaced sense of value, and draw us into your extravagance, that we too might be generous with our love and mercy. Amen.**

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Our claim to forgiveness rests entirely in God's claim on us.  
In death and resurrection, Jesus Christ restores us to life.  
Friends, we share the good news with joy:  
in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

People: **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

### SHARING THE PEACE

Leader: They that wait upon the Lord will renew their strength.  
The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

## HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

ANTHEM "Love Is All Our Joy" Malcolm Archer

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON (p. 672—OT) Isaiah 43:16-21

\*HYMN OF INVITATION # 201 "A Prophet Woman Broke a Jar"

SECOND LESSON (p. 106—NT) John 12:1-8

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON Rev. Maggie Rust

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

### PRAYERS FOR HEALING AND ANOINTING OF THE PEOPLE

Leader: Jesus Christ, lover of all:

People: **bring healing, bring peace.**

\*HYMN # 792 "There Is a Balm in Gilead"

### INSTALLATION OF CYNTHIA ERDEI TO SESSION

### \*PROFESSION OF FAITH

Leader: Do you believe in God the Father?

People: **I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

Leader: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People: **I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin  
Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died,  
and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third  
day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated  
at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge  
the living and the dead.**

Leader: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People: **I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the  
resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## GOING OUT TO SERVE

\*HYMN OF BLESSING # 712 "As Those of Old Their Firstfruits Brought"

### \*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" arr.: Joel Raney

\*Please rise, in body or spirit.

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**Large-print Hymnals** are available in the back of the sanctuary.

**Hearing Assist Devices** are located in the rear of the Sanctuary.  
Disposable ear buds are available for your convenience. They can be  
disposed after use in the labeled slot. **Please note**, only one ear bud  
receives signal, so please check both buds to determine that the unit is  
working. Contact the church office with any other issues.

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**WELCOME VISITORS!** We are glad you are here. We invite you to fill  
out a Visitor Card, found in the pews. If you are seeking a church home,  
you are welcome to join us in discipleship as a community of faith and  
service. Pastor Maggie would be happy to talk to you about your journey.

## LENTEN STUDY

We continue our partnership with Watauga Avenue Presbyterian to study  
Rachel Held Evans' book *Inspired* on **Wednesdays during Lent**. There are  
two sessions being held on Wednesdays, one is in person, alternating  
between the host churches at 3:30 PM, and the other is on Zoom at 7 PM.  
**The next in-person session will be at Watauga on April 6. Zoom  
invitations will be emailed every week on Wednesday morning.**

**Here is the schedule for the 3:30 PM in-person sessions:**

April 6: Watauga Avenue April 13: Covenant

## HOLY WEEK AT COVENANT

**PALM SUNDAY:** April 10, 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary.

**MAUNDY THURSDAY:** April 14, 5:30 PM

Please join us for a Maundy Thursday dinner and service  
at Covenant with Watauga Ave. Presbyterian.

Weather permitting, we will be outside.

Otherwise, we will be in the Fellowship Hall.

**[Please sign up in the Narthex or by calling  
or e-mailing the church office by April 11.]**

**GOOD FRIDAY: APRIL 15, Noon**

There will be a Good Friday Service at  
Watauga Ave. Presbyterian Church beginning at Noon.  
(610 E. Watauga Ave., J.C.) We encourage everyone to attend.

**EASTER SUNDAY: April 17**

**Sunrise Service** at 7:00 AM—

This will be a brief service followed by refreshments.

**Traditional Service** at 11 AM in the Sanctuary.

## HOLY WEEK LABYRINTH

Walking a labyrinth can provide a time for prayerful reflection and  
meditation. Again this year we will have one on the lawn in the front of the  
church during Holy Week. Labyrinths have been used for centuries in  
Christian churches as a way to deepen prayer lives. A Labyrinth is like a  
maze, but it has no dead ends. The walk to the center of the labyrinth  
represents our life's journeys – there are many twists and turns, but life's path  
will lead us to the center. The center represents that part of ourselves that is  
irrevocably connected to God (nothing can "separate us from the love of God  
which is in Christ Jesus our Lord"). After prayerful reflection in the center,  
the walk away from the center represents our taking the grace we have  
received in our relationship with God out into the world through seeking  
justice, through acts of loving kindness and through humility.

## COVENANT HOLY WEEK SCAVENGER HUNT

We are hosting the first ever Covenant Holy Week Scavenger Hunt which  
will begin on Sunday, April 10 when we will distribute a list of items to find/  
do. People can participate as individuals or teams. The "hunt" will culminate  
on Saturday, April 16 at 3:00 PM with cookies/lemonade on the lawn to  
celebrate, share our "finds," and give a few prizes!

## ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING OFFERING—APRIL 17

In a world of disaster, hunger, and oppression, millions of people lack access  
to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and  
opportunity. The three programs supported by the One Great Hour of Sharing  
Offering—Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger  
Program, and Self-Development of People—all work in different ways to  
serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to  
ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people  
with safety, sustenance, and hope. Please plan to make a contribution to our  
One Great Hour of Sharing part of your Easter celebration.

### GOOD SAMARITAN FOOD OFFERING

In April, we are collecting: **Canned Meats (tuna, Spam, Vienna Sausages, Ravioli, etc.) and Canned Veggies.** You may continue to drop off your contributions in the shopping cart outside the front door during office hours. On Sundays, the cart will be in the Narthex. If you wish to make a monetary donation, we will pass it along, too. Thank you for your generous donations to this local ministry!

### MOM POWER RETURNS TO COVENANT!

Volunteers Needed! Join us in serving young families as we partner with Families Free and the ETSU Department of Psychology in Mom Power's holistic parenting program. Sessions begin Wednesday, April 27 for 10 weeks. **Call Julie Wood** ASAP if you can help with meals, transportation or childcare on Wednesdays. 904 891-1922. Woodfamily5@bellsouth.net.

### BLACK/WHITE DIALOGUE—MONDAY, APRIL 11, 2022

Black/White Dialogue is meeting in person on **April 11 from 6—8:00 pm at the Pro-To Club in Johnson City.** The story of Tom Devert, a black railroad worker living in Erwin, TN, in August of 1919, will be told by Tama Lunceford, a member of the Jonesborough Storytelling Guild.

Light food will be served since it is meal time. We will have ample time for participants to make connections in conversation, share with one another, and build bridges of community. The food will be catered by Lorraine and Elmer Washington of Taste Budz. As in the past, there will be an opportunity for contributions to help pay for this excellent cuisine. Please bring friend(s). Contact Ed Wolff for more information.

**Pro-To-Club**, 509 W. Main Street, Johnson City, TN

### STATEMENT ON MASKS

On behalf of Session:

Out of an abundance of caution, we require participants attending indoor activities at Covenant to wear masks, unless Washington County is in the Yellow or Green zone on CovidActNow.org. Then masks will be optional. The weekly email announcement to prepare for worship and the signs on the church doors will have that week's color status. They may differ if the status changes after Tina posts the signs and sends the email.

### AFFIRMING ALL GOD'S CHILDREN

We at Covenant Presbyterian Church of Johnson City, Tennessee, under the auspices of the Presbyterian Church (USA), aka PC(USA), present its Churchwide Antiracism Policy, first adopted in 1999 and revised in 2016. It proclaims the following:

“While recognizing that racism victimizes many different racial ethnic groups, we acknowledge its unique impact on the African American community. Given the particular forms that anti-Black racism has taken in the United States of America, both historically (including slavery and Jim Crow) and today (including mass incarceration, disproportionate policing, economic inequality, and continuing acts of racially oriented violence and hate), we state clearly: **GOD LOVES BLACKNESS.** Too many have denied this basic truth for too long. Our choice to align ourselves with love and not hate requires both a rejection of racism and a positive proclamation that God delights in Black lives.”

### GIVING TO THE CHURCH

**Besides online giving or dropping off or mailing a check,** it is also easy (and free) to set up **automatic payments** through your banking institution or online BillPay. Thank you for continuing to support the work of Covenant Presbyterian Church. *If you have any questions, please contact Tina in the church office.*

*Please see your April Courier  
(extra printed copies are on the table in the Narthex)  
for the full April calendar and for birthdays and anniversaries!*

### TODAY AT COVENANT

Morning Greeter:  
Liturgist:

Jim Starr  
Stacy Larsen

Covenant Chancel Choir

### CHURCH STAFF

Pastor:  
Music Director:  
Office Administrator:  
Administrative Assistant:

Rev. Maggie Rust  
Jessica Siple  
Tina Simon  
Anne Webb

### PRAYER CONCERNS

*If you know of other reasons for rejoicing or concerns you would like to share feel free to complete a prayer card with your request. Please contact the church office with any updates to this list. Names will remain in the bulletin for three weeks unless we are notified about a change.*

### Week of April 3—9, 2022

Family of BJ King's office administrator  
Jim & Norma Starr  
Pat Smith's mother, Betty  
Sharon Fuhrman  
Rosemary Whitson's sister, Marshia Adams, and her niece  
BJ King's sister, Mary Lynn  
Pat Zembower, Christian's mom  
Don & Anita Wolf, Julie Wood' parents  
Ron Smith's sister, Rhonda and her husband Joe  
Pat and Vickie Koppel, friends of Don & Patti Coble  
Steve Jones, friend of Sharon Fuhrman  
Traci Starr Honeycutt, Jim & Norma Starr's daughter  
Sarah Campbell, Sharon Fuhrman's granddaughter  
All those in our community affected by Covid-19.  
The people of Ukraine, its neighbors, and the innocent peoples of Russia.

*Join us in continually lifting up in prayer our mission co-workers:*

Bob & Kristi Rice: South Sudan  
The Adams Maldonado Family: Frontera de Cristo

*and these Covenant ministry partners:*

UKirk ETSU (Pres. Campus Ministry) ☩ Holston Presbytery Camp  
LatinX Ministry ☩ The River ☩ BABMOC



In the event of emergency, be aware that our Automated External Defibrillator (AED) Unit is located on the wall outside the front door of the Church Office.



Covenant Presbyterian Church is proud to have received the designation of being an Earth Care Congregation, through the PC(USA).

Covenant Presbyterian Church has been certified as a **Recovery Congregation** by the Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services.



Covenant Presbyterian Church

603 Sunset Drive, Johnson City, TN 37604

423-282-5324 ☩ fax 423-282-5346 ☩ office@cpcjc.org ☩ www.cpcjc.org

Facebook: "Covenant Presbyterian Church (Johnson City, TN.)"



# Covenant

## PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

### CHRIST • PEOPLE • COMMUNITY

### APRIL 3, 2022

### FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

### CPC STATEMENT OF OPENNESS AND WELCOME

We aspire to Christ's model of openness and love for all persons. As God has welcomed us, we also welcome everyone into the life, leadership, and community of Christ's church, regardless of abilities, age, economic status, education, ethnicity, gender identity, race, sexual orientation, social position or any identity or status that might be perceived as separating us from God or one another.

We pledge to affirm the inherent worth and dignity of each of God's children, with membership, leadership, and employment open to whomever God calls.

### MISSION STATEMENT

Covenant Presbyterian Church exists to glorify and enjoy God. We live knowing that God calls us to be a place of love, support, hope and acceptance regardless of earthly labels. Jesus Christ commissions us to make disciples and passionately share our gifts with the world through prayer, teaching, and service. The Holy Spirit allows us to determine and carry out Christ's will for our lives and the life of our church and empowers us to seek out and respond to the needs of our local and global community.